

1912

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Western Theological Seminary

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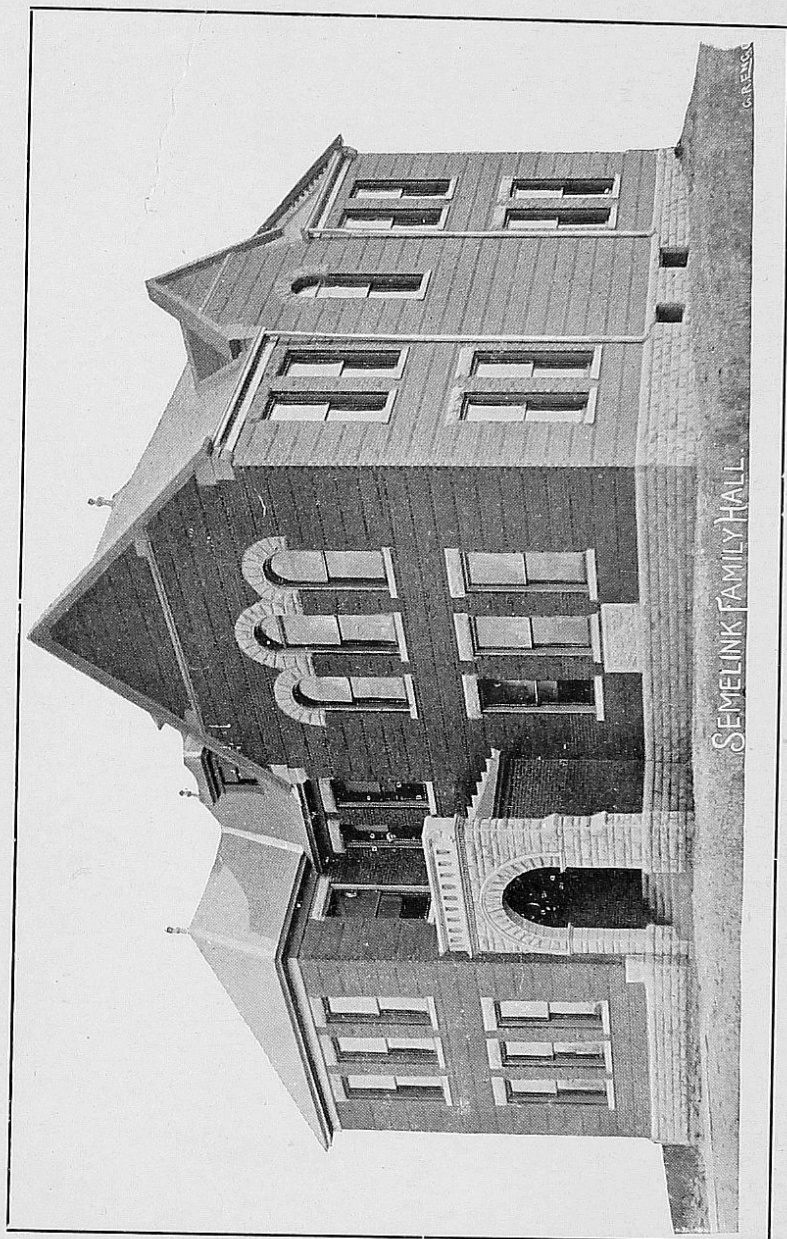


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SEMELINK FAMILY HALL

GREENSBORO

**WESTERN THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY**

Reformed Church in America



1912 - 1913

HOLLAND - MICHIGAN

CALENDAR

1912--1913

- 1912.** September 19..... Entrance Examinations
September 20..... Assignment of Work
November 28..... Thanksgiving Recess
December 20..... Christmas Recess begins
- 1913.** January 7..... Work Resumed
January 23..... Winter Examinations
January 30..... Prayer for Colleges
May 13, 14..... Final Examinations
May 13..... Meeting of Board of Superintendents
May 14..... Commencement Exercises
in the evening
- September 18..... Entrance Examinations
September 19..... Assignment of Work
November 27..... Thanksgiving Recess
December 19..... Christmas Recess begins

BOARD OF SUPERINTENDENTS

EX-OFFICIO

JOHN W. BEARDSLEE, D.D., LL.D., President of the Faculty
 AME VENNEMA, D.D., President of Hope College

From the Synod of New York

1913. REV. JAS. M. FARRAR, D.D., LL.D., Brooklyn, N.Y.

From the Synod of Albany

1914. REV. JOHN F. DOBBS, Syracuse, N.Y.

From the Synod of New Brunswick

1912. REV. ISAAC W. GOWEN, D.D., Weehawken, N. J.

From the Synod of Chicago

1913. REV. JACOB P. DE JONG, Alton, Ia.
 1913. ELDER J. H. TER AVEST, Coopersville, Mich.
 1914. REV. PETER MOERDYKE, D.D., South Bend, Ind.
 1914. ELDER BAREND DOSKER, Grand Rapids, Mich.
 1915. ELDER J. A. WILTERDINK, Holland, Mich.
 1915. REV. JOHN ENGELSMAN, Orange City, Ia.

From the Classes

CLASSIS	NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Dakota,	REV. B. W. LAMMERS,	1917
Illinois,	" GEORGE NIEMEYER,	1912
Holland,	" BENJAMIN HOFFMAN,	1913
Pleasant Prairie,	" JOHN G. THEILKEN,	1913
Iowa,	" FRED. LUBBERS,	1914
Michigan,	" JOHN VAN DER MEULEN,	1914
Wisconsin,	" PETER SWART,	1914
Pella,	" S. VAN DER WERF,	1915
Grand River,	" EVART TROOST,	1916

Officers of the Board

REV. AME VENNEMA, D. D., President
 REV. PETER MOERDYKE, D. D., Stated Clerk

THE FACULTY

REV. JOHN W. BEARDSLEE, D. D., LL. D.
President of the Faculty and Professor of Biblical Languages and Literature.
26 East Twelfth Street.

REV. JAMES F. ZWEMER, D. D.
Secretary of the Faculty and Professor of Practical Theology.
64 West Fourteenth Street.

REV. MATTHEW KOLYN, D. D.
Professor of Historical Theology.
66 West Thirteenth Street.

REV. EVART J. BLEKKINK, D. D.
In charge of Didactic and Polemic Theology.
47 East Thirteenth Street.

On account of the death of Prof. Nicholas M. Steffens, Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology, the Board of Superintendents made temporary arrangements as follows: Rev. Evart J. Blekkink was requested to take charge of the Department of Didactic and Polemic Theology until the next meeting of the General Synod.

Committee on Reception of Students and Examinations.

Rev. J. P. De Jong, Rev. Benjamin Hoffman, Rev. Evart J. Blekkink, Rev. Ralph Bloemendal, Elder J. A. Wilterdink, President Ame Vennema and the Faculty.

STUDENTS

SENIOR CLASS

ROBERT W. DOUMA.....Hamilton
First Grade Certificate, Colorado.

HENRY K. PASMA, A.B.....Moline
Hope College, 1910.

HARRY E. REINHART.....Holland
ARIE J. TE PASKE, A.B.....Orange City, Iowa
Hope College, 1910.

JAMES A. VERBURG, A.B.....Holland
Hope College, 1910.

JEAN A. VIS, A.B.....Grand Rapids
Hope College, 1910.

MIDDLE CLASS

HARRY P. ANKER, A.B.....South Holland, Ill.
Hope College, 1910.

DIRK DYKSTRA, A.M.....Bahrein, Arabia
Hope College. 1906.

JACOB HEEMSTRA, A.B.....Boyden, Iowa.
Hope College, 1910.

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- EDWARD HUIBREGTSE, A.B.....Oostburg, Wis.
Hope College, 1910.
- JOHN HERMAN KREGEL, B. Ped.....Chicago, Ill.
Oskaloosa College, 1910.
- ALLEN F. MARCLEY, A.B.....Schenectady, N. Y.
Rutgers College, 1911.
- TEUNIS OLDENBURGER.....Holland
Calvin College, 1911.
- ROYAL A. STANTON.....Lawyersville, N.Y.
Rutgers College Special.
- BENJAMIN J. WYNVEEN.....Cedar Grove, Wis.
Hope College Special, 1912.

JUNIOR CLASS

- JOHN BENNINK, A.B.....Kalamazoo
Hope College, 1912.
- JOHN WILLIAM BRINK, A.B.....Maurice, Iowa
Hope College, 1912.
- OLIVER GERRIT DROPPERS, A.B.....Cedar Grove, Wis.
Hope College, 1912.
- JOHN DEWEY DYKSTRA, A.B.....Holland
Olivet College, 1911.
- ENGELHART FURDA.....Groningen, Neth.
Hope College Special, 1912.
- RAYMOND DIRK MEENGs, A.B.....Cedar Grove, Wis.
Hope College, 1911.
- GERRIT MENNING.....Alton, Ill.
Hope College Special, 1912.

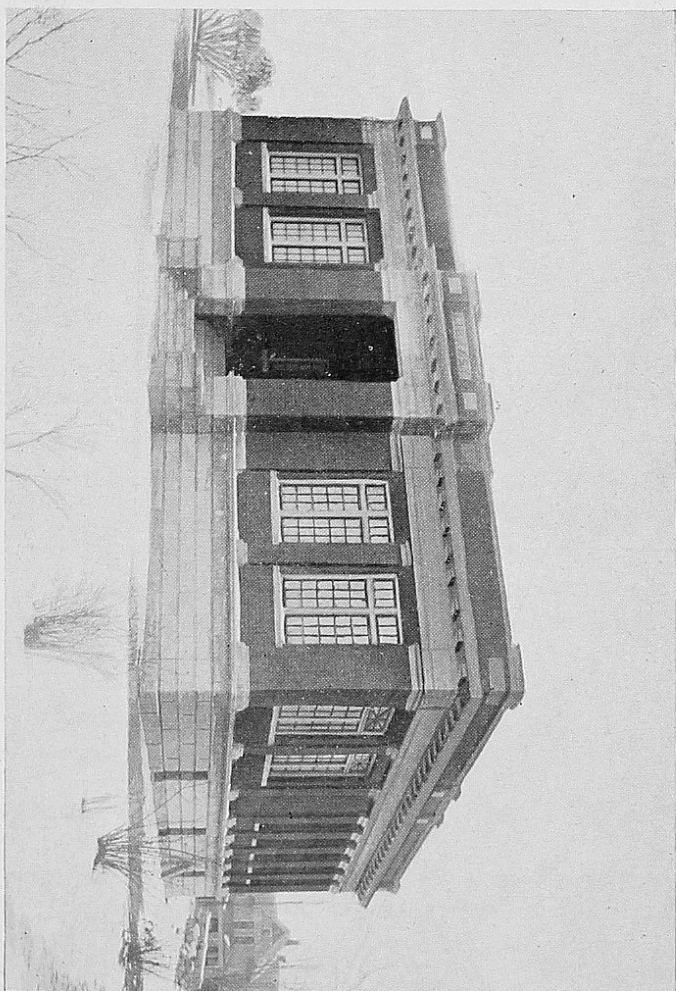
HUBERT S. MULLENBURG, A.B.....	Orange City, Iowa
	Iowa College, 1912.
THOMAS G. VAN DEN BOSCH.....	Grand Haven
	Calvin College, 1912.
FREDERICK JOHN VAN DYK, A.B.....	Grand Rapids
	Hope College, 1912.
BART R. VAN ZYL, A.B.....	Alton, Iowa
	Hope College, 1912.
FREDERIC ZANDSTRA, A.B.....	Chicago, Ill.
	Hope College, 1912.

UNCLASSIFIED

JOHN J. BURGGRAFF.....	Grand Rapids
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SUMMARY

Junior Class.....	12
Middle Class.....	9
Senior Class.....	6
Unclassified	1
Total	<hr/> 28



THE LIBRARY

COURSES OF STUDY

EXEGETICAL THEOLOGY

HEBREW

Junior Class

1. Elements of Hebrew Grammar and word formation, based on selected readings from the Pentateuch.

Five hours per week, first half year.—Prof. Beardslee.

2. Readings from the Historical books, with review of the Grammar and Syntax.

Five hours per week, second half year.—Prof. Beardslee.

3. Biblical Antiquities—Lectures.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Blekkink.

Middle Class

4. Textual Criticism—Lectures.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Beardslee.

Senior Class

5. The Book of Ecclesiastes, or Song of Solomon.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Beardslee.

Middle and Senior Classes

6. Selections from the Historical books, with a study

of Chronology and the relations of Israel with Foreign Nations. 1913.

Three hours per week, first half year.—Prof. Beardslee.

7. Messianic Prophecy with the principles of its exegesis and the development of the Messianic idea. 1913.

Three hours per week, second half year.—Prof. Beardslee.

8. Old Testament Introduction, with reference to the contents of the books and current criticism. 1913.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Beardslee.

9. The Minor Prophets, with the text of Amos, Jonah and Malachi, and a review of the entire period. 1912.

Three hours per week, first half year.—Prof. Beardslee.

10. Hebrew Poetry, its external form and exegesis. 1913.

Three hours per week, second half year.—Prof. Beardslee.

GREEK

Junior Class

1. Harmony of the Gospels, with special reference to historical and exegetical facts.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Kolyn.

2. Elements of New Testament Greek.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Kolyn.

Middle Class

3. Exegetical study of the methods of Paul as a missionary. Readings in the Acts of the Apostles.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Zwemer.

Middle and Senior Classes

4. The Epistle to the Romans. 1912.

Two hours per week throughout the year.—Prof. Beardslee.

5. The Epistle to the Hebrews. 1913.

Two hours per week throughout the year.—Prof. Beardslee.

6. The Pastoral Epistles.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Zwemer.

7. New Testament Introduction. 1912.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Blekkink.

PRACTICAL THEOLOGY*Junior Class*

1. Diaconics. The nature, qualifications and demands of the Gospel Ministry.

Two hours per week, first half year.—Prof. Zwemer.

2. Hermeneutics, including a synthetic study of the books of the Bible.

One and one-half hours per week, throughout the year.—Prof. Zwemer.

3. Homiletics, with lectures on the Ministry of Preaching and Sermon work.

Three hours per week throughout the year.—Prof. Zwemer.

Middle Class

4. Liturgics.

Two hours per week, first half year.—Prof. Zwemer.

5. Poimenics, Catechetics and Sunday School work.

Two hours per week throughout the year.—Prof. Zwemer.

6. Sermon sketches. Exercises in preaching. Written and Extemporaneous sermons and explanations of the Heidelberg Catechism.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Zwemer.

Senior Class

7. Expository study of the Pastoral Epistles, in relation to Evangelization and Sociology.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Zwemer.

8. Kybernetics, Church Polity and Church Government, written sermon sketches, exercises in preaching written and extemporaneous sermons in the English, Holland and German languages.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Zwemer.

HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

Junior Class

1. **Sacred History.** A careful study of the history of God's revelation to Israel during the period of the Old Dispensation; a brief course in Intertestamentary History; the study of the life of Christ, and the founding of the Christian Church. Text-book, lectures and theses.

Four hours per week throughout the year.—Prof. Kolyn.

Middle Class

2. **Church History—Ancient and Middle Periods.** World conditions at the "Fullness of Time;" struggles and victories of the early church; development of worship, doctrine and government; rise and decline of the Papacy. Text-books and theses.

Three hours per week throughout the year.—Prof. Kolyn.

Senior Class

3. **Church History—Modern Period.** The history of the Reformation and the rise and development of Protestant Churches in Europe and America, with special study of the history of the Reformed Church. Text-books and theses.

Three hours per week, during the first half year; two hours per week, during the second half year.—Prof. Kolyn.

4. **History and Theory of Missions.** Text-book and Lectures.

One hour per week, during the second half year.—Prof. Kolyn.

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

In addition to the Outline prepared by the professor the student is referred throughout the course to Charles Hodge's Theology and other standard works, both in the Holland and the English languages.

Junior Class

1. General Introduction to Systematic Theology, Inspiration, Symbolics and Principles of non-Christian religions.

Two hours per week throughout the year.—Prof. Blekkink.

Middle Class

2. Theology Proper, Anthropology and Soterology with modern theories of sin, the Person of Christ, etc.

Three hours per week throughout the year.—Prof. Blekkink.

Senior Class

3. Soteriology; the way, means and consummation of salvation. Review of entire course.

Three hours per week throughout the year.—Prof. Blekkink.

4. Christian Ethics.

One hour per week throughout the year.—Prof. Blekkink.

GENERAL INFORMATION

THE YEAR—The Seminary opens on the third Thursday in September, at ten o'clock a. m., when the Committee meets for the reception of students, and closes on the second Wednesday in May, with the Annual Commencement, at which addresses are made by two students and a member of the Board of Superintendents appointed for that purpose.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRANCE—Every applicant is required to present a certificate of church membership and one of literary qualifications. One who has not pursued a regular collegiate course must by testimonials or examinations give proofs of such literary attainments as will enable him to profit by the course of study.

Students are accepted from any denomination of Christians.

The requirements of the Constitution in regard to students preparing for the ministry in the Reformed Church are as follows:

“Every person contemplating the work of the ministry, before he commences his course of Theological studies, shall furnish satisfactory evidence of his being a member, in full communion and in good standing, of a Reformed Protestant Church; of his piety, abilities and literary attainments; and thereupon shall be admitted into one of the Theological Schools; and, during the pro-

secution of his studies there, shall be subject to the rules and regulations thereof; and, when he shall have completed the prescribed course and term of Theological studies, shall be admitted to an examination according to the regulations of the Schools, as established by the General Synod; and, if found qualified, shall receive a Professorial Certificate to that effect, which shall entitle him to an examination for licensure before the Classis to which he belongs."—Constitution, Art. II, Sec. 2.

EXAMINATIONS—At the close of the year a written examination of all the classes, and on all the branches of study, is held before a Committee of the Board of Superintendents, on Thursday and Friday before Commencement, at nine o'clock a. m., and this is followed by an oral examination before the full Board on the Tuesday and Wednesday of Commencement week. Special written examinations are held in midwinter as the work requires.

BENEFICIARY AID—Instruction is entirely gratuitous. Young men are aided by the Board of Education as their circumstances require and the funds admit, not only while in the Seminary, but in the College studies preparatory to entering it. Rooms are provided in Van Vleck Hall, and board can be obtained in the city or at Voorhees Dormitory.

MISSION WORK—A study of Missions is included in the regular work of the Seminary. The students and faculty together support two native workers in India. A weekly prayer meeting does much to stimulate a deep interest in missions. Mr. Peter Semelink has established a scholarship of \$2,000, the income of which is to be paid to a student in the Seminary, preference be-

ing given to one looking forward to Foreign Missionary Work.

THE ADELPHIC Y. M. C. A.—A gathering of Professors and Students is held every Tuesday evening at the home of one of the Professors. It stands for social, intellectual and spiritual development. Devotional exercises occupy the first half hour, essays and general discussions follow, after which a brief time is spent in social enjoyment. This meeting constitutes one of the most attractive features of our Seminary life.

STUDENT PREACHING—Members of the Middle and Senior classes have frequent opportunities to preach in our mission churches and where special service is needed. The assignment of students for such purposes is left by the General Synod with the Faculty, who will endeavor to afford all the students an opportunity to preach. It will greatly facilitate our effort if the churches needing such supplies will apply directly to the president of the Faculty.

During the summer vacation students may be assigned to mission fields, thus enabling them to acquire experience in conducting church work as well as supplementing their own income.

HISTORICAL

The intention of the Reformed Church to establish Educational Institutions which would provide for her young people in the rapidly growing West, found expression in Hope College. This was incorporated in the year 1866. Seven members of the first graduating class petitioned the General Synod for permission to continue their theological studies at the College. Synod granted the request and arranged for the Professors of the College to give the necessary instruction. In 1867 the Rev. Cornelius E. Crispell was formally elected "Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology at Hope College," and with assistance from the other professors he was directed to give theological instruction in connection with his duties in the College. For a supervising body, Synod divided its Board of Superintendents of the Seminary at New Brunswick, which was composed of one delegate from each Classis throughout the Church, into an Eastern and Western Section, the Western to have charge of theology at Hope College.

Its work was greatly embarrassed by the lack of money, and its relation to the Synod was not according to the traditions of the Church. This finally led to a suspension of Theology in 1877, the Synod at the same time emphatically assuring the western churches it would gladly restore the school as soon as endowment could be secured.

In 1884, this requirement having been met, mainly through the sacrifice of the western churches, Synod

elected the Rev. Dr. Nicholas M. Steffens as Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology, with the Rev. Peter Moerdyke and the Rev. Henry E. Dosker as temporary Lectors.

In 1885 further advance was made and the complete independence of the Seminary established by the appointment of a Board of Superintendents, a Faculty under direct supervision of the Synod, and a course of study similar to that in the Seminary at New Brunswick.

In 1888 the General Synod established a Professorship of Biblical Languages and Literature and elected the Rev. Dr. John W. Beardslee to that position.

In 1894 the General Synod established a Professorship of Ecclesiastical History and elected the Rev. Henry E. Dosker to that position.

Hitherto the Seminary had no home and occupied very unsuitable rooms in a building on the College Campus, originally built as a residence for Professor Oggel, but in 1895 God moved the heart of Mr. Peter Semelink, of the Vriesland Church, to erect a fine brick building, furnished with modern conveniences, and containing excellent lecture rooms, a Chapel and a room for a Library. This at once settled all questions as to the future of the Seminary, and gave a new impetus to its progress.

This building is situated in the center of a large lot on the south side of Twelfth Street, directly opposite the College Campus and facing the new Gymnasium and Van Raalte Memorial Hall; a site beautiful in itself and historically interesting because on it stood the "Orphan House," erected in the beginning of the colony as a home

for children whose parents died soon after reaching the settlement.

The maintenance and support of this property has been provided for in part by the income of a donation of three thousand dollars from the generous donor of the Hall. This gift is held in trust, for the aforesaid purpose, by the Council of Hope College at Holland, Michigan.

In 1895 the Rev. Dr. Egbert Winter was elected Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology, Dr. Steffens having resigned from that position.

In 1903 the Rev. Dr. Nicholas M. Steffens was elected Professor of Ecclesiastical History, Dr. Dosker having resigned from that position.

In 1904 the Rev. Gerrit H. Dubbink was elected Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology, Dr. Winter having resigned from that position, and continued until his death, July 19, 1910.

In 1907 the General Synod established a Professorship of Practical Theology and elected the Rev. James F. Zwemer to that position.

In 1911 the General Synod transferred Prof. Nicholas M. Steffens from the chair of Historical Theology to that of Didactic Theology, made vacant by the death of Prof. Dubbink, and elected the Rev. Dr. Matthew Kolyn Professor of Historical Theology.

THE LIBRARY

The collection of a suitable Library was begun when the Rev. Anson Du Bois, D. D., gave \$100.00 and sent a collection of books. Later, the family of the Rev. Dr. Talbot W. Chambers sent a large part of his critical library to the Seminary, and this was supplemented by ex-

tensive donations from the valuable libraries of the Rev. Drs. W. R. Gordon and John T. Demarest. At the General Synod of 1904, which met in Grand Rapids, a most welcome gift in money was made by its members, which enabled us to purchase many needed volumes and add a little to our BOOK FUND. To these the widow of the Rev. Eugene E. Thomas added the well equipped library of her deceased husband, rich in theological literature of a high order. The newly organized Second Church at Zeeland has also made generous additions to our fund, Very many others whose gifts have been thoroughly appreciated have contributed, until now a collection of about 10,000 volumes is secured. Having only a small Library endowment, the kind remembrance of our friends is heartily appreciated. A card catalogue renders the books easy of access. For general literature the students have free access to the Graves Library of Hope College. A new Library building is now being erected, as a donation by Professor Beardslee.

RESOURCES

This Seminary desires to see its teaching force supported from the income of a limited endowment, and this income supplemented by the perennial contribution of churches and friends. Hence we name as our resources our Endowment and Seminary Salary Fund.

In accordance with this idea an endowment has been secured for the three professorships first assigned, amounting to thirty thousand dollars for each chair. An endowment of ten thousand dollars has also been secured for incidental expenses, and of one thousand dollars for a Library fund.

THE SEMINARY SALARY FUND

Since the re-establishment of Theological Instruction at Holland, in 1884, all the monies needed for the salaries of the Lectors temporarily employed and for the payment in full of the salaries of the unendowed and partially endowed Chairs, have been regularly provided from the Salary Fund, to which nearly all the Churches in the West devote an annual free-will offering.

Out of this fund the Salary of the Professor of Practical Theology is paid, and it also provides for whatever deficits may occur in the income from the endowment.

As proof that this Salary Fund, a living link between the Seminary and the Churches, justifies the wisdom of thus investing a part of our Endowment in the affections of our constituency, it may be stated that this Fund has grown from \$600 to the present income of \$1,800 annually, and that the amount given during these twenty years to this Fund, to supplement the income of the annual Endowment, now aggregates the grand total sum of \$25,000.

NEEDS WAITING FOR RESPONSIVE FRIENDS

Residences for our Professors.

A \$5,000 Library Endowment.

A Dormitory for our Students.

The constant increase in household expenses makes it necessary to secure suitable homes for the Professors. Friends of the Seminary ought to take the matter into consideration.

Our Library has made an exceptional growth, through the thoughtful assistance of our many friends. It is now thoroughly indexed and arranged so as to be easily accessible to our students. But we have so small an endowment that we are unable to secure new books and periodicals which ought to be placed before the students as soon as they appear. This we regard as one of the fundamental requirements for securing a ministerial education such as the times demand. Can we look for the co-operation of our friends to secure this?

We are greatly pleased with the increasing number of our students. A suitable dormitory would be an inducement for more to attend. It is now difficult to secure desirable rooms in the vicinity of the Seminary.

*General Synod's Permanent Committee on the Finances of
the Western Theological Seminary.*

Rev. John W. Beardslee, President.

Rev. James F. Zwemer, Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. John A. Wilterdink, Mr. Barend Dosker, Mr. John
A. Thompson, Mr. Teunis Prins.

FORM OF BEQUEST

I give unto the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America.....Dollars
for the maintenance and support of the Theological Seminary of said Church, located at Holland, Michigan, and they are to invest the principle and apply the interest to said purpose.

Or

I give unto the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America.....Dollars
for the establishment of a Professorship in the Theological Seminary of said Church located at Holland, Michigan, to be named
.....
.....

Or

I give unto the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America.....Dollars
to the fund for the purchase of books for the Library of the Western Theological Seminary located at Holland, Michigan.